

Marcia Jensen

Biography

Marcia is honored to have been elected to the Town Council in November of 2012. As a Council Member, her focus is on serving all members of the community and maintaining the beautiful natural setting, small-town charm, great schools, and extraordinary quality of life that made her choose to join the Los Gatos community in 1985. Marcia raised her two children here and they both graduated from Van Meter, Fisher and Los Gatos High School, before going to college.

Marcia is a third generation Californian who was raised and educated in the Bay Area, earning a B.A. in English from Cal in 1978, and a J.D. from Santa Clara University, School of Law in 1981, where she was also named a member of the Honors Moot Court Board.

Upon graduation from law school, Marcia worked as a Deputy District Attorney in Alameda County from 1981 – 1985; for a brief period in private law practice in San Jose in 1986; then as an Assistant United States Attorney in the Northern District of California prosecuting crimes in federal court in San Jose from April 1987 until deciding to leave the active practice of law in 2003.

Growing up in a family of public servants, it was natural that Marcia sought out a way to give back to Los Gatos. She was appointed to the Planning Commission for the first time in 1989. Over the next 10 years, she served in the following capacities:

- Member: General Plan, Architectural Standards, Hillside and Trails and Bikeways Committees
- Participated in Development of Downtown Design Guidelines, Hillside Guidelines, and Blossom Hill Open Space Study
- Planning Commission Chair, 1994-1997

In 1999, Marcia left the Planning Commission to concentrate on her work and family, but in 2004 she resumed her community involvement both in Los Gatos and throughout the Bay Area through the following commitments:

- Fisher Parent Representative, Excellence in Education Task Force 2003-2004
- Public Representative, General Plan Committee 2006 - 2008
- Member, Compact Development Review Team, Greenbelt Alliance 2008 – 2011
- Member, Los Gatos Planning Commission 2008 – 2012, Chair 2012; Member General Plan Committee, North 40 Advisory Committee
- Member, Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury 2010 – 2011, Chair, Cities and Special Districts Committee

Since joining the Council in 2012, Marcia has served the Town in the following capacities:

- Member of the Firearms Ad Hoc Committee, which created a new regulatory structure and land use ordinance to govern the sales and manufacture of firearms in Los Gatos.
- Member of the Planned Development Ad Hoc Committee, working to draft new ordinances re-defining the scope and permissibility of planned developments.
- Vice Chair of the Housing Element Advisory Board,
- Member of the General Plan Committee and Conceptual Development Advisory Committee.

Marcia is honored to have been elected by her peers on the Council to serve as Vice Mayor from November 2013 to 2014, and to have been unanimously elected to her first term as Mayor beginning in November 2014.

She looks forward to serving all members of the Los Gatos community on the Town Council and welcomes your input. Marcia invites you to contact her at MJensen@LosGatosCA.gov.